SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 164

On the death of Major Stephen Vernon Long.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 31, 2002 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 4, 2002

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2001, terrorists launched an inexcusable attack on the United States, causing great destruction and horrible human suffering in New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the attack had a devastating effect in Virginia, home of the Pentagon and of many of the personnel, military and civilian, who served there; and

WHEREAS, among the victims of the Pentagon attack was Major Stephen Vernon Long of Fairfax, a 20-year veteran of service in the United States Army who was attending a meeting at the Pentagon; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Long enlisted in the Army in 1981 and saw action and earned a Purple Heart as a paratrooper in Grenada during Operation Urgent Fury; and

WHEREAS, as a platoon leader with the 82nd Airborne Division, Stephen Long was among the first troops deployed to Saudi Arabia for Operation Desert Shield and the ensuing Gulf War; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Long was selected for a "Green to Gold" scholarship to Augusta State University in Georgia and moved from the enlisted to officer ranks; and

WHEREAS, in 1998 Major Stephen Long joined the United States Army Total Army Personnel Command in Alexandria, where he was working as secretary of the general staff of the commanding general; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Major Stephen Vernon Long, a victim of the September 11 terrorist attacks on the United States; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Major Stephen Vernon Long as an expression of the heartfelt condolences of the General Assembly of Virginia.